

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

In the Matter of:	*	
	*	
SS NORWAY	*	Docket No. DCA03MM032
	*	

Wednesday,
May 28, 2003

INTERVIEW OF:

JOVITO GRANPIL, JR.

PRESENT:

ROB JONES, NTSB
JIM WALSH, NTSB

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. JONES: The third interview of 5/28/03 on
3 the Norway. And sir, if you would give us your name
4 and your safety number, please.

5 MR. GRANPIL: Jovita Granpil, and my safety
6 number is 0-5-8.

7 MR. JONES: Zero, five, eight.

8 And your job onboard, sir?

9 MR. GRANPIL: Cook.

10 MR. JONES: You are a cook.

11 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

12 MR. JONES: And how long have you been onboard
13 now?

14 MR. GRANPIL: Eight months.

15 MR. JONES: Eight months. And have you, is
16 this your first time onboard or --

17 MR. GRANPIL: This is my first time.

18 MR. JONES: First time onboard. And you are
19 contracted for how long?

20 MR. GRANPIL: Ten months.

21 MR. JONES: Okay.

22 And have you been on any other ships other
23 than the Norway?

24 MR. GRANPIL: Yes. I was --

25 MR. JONES: Norwegian -- and how long have you

1 been with Norwegian Cruise Lines?

2 MR. GRANPIL: Four contracts.

3 MR. JONES: Four contracts, so that is how
4 long you have been there. But, you have been on the
5 Norway how long, how many times?

6 MR. GRANPIL: Fourth.

7 MR. JONES: Fourth. Four contracts on the
8 Norway and you have been --

9 MR. GRANPIL: No, this is my second contract
10 on the Norway.

11 MR. JONES: Second contract on the Norway.

12 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

13 MR. JONES: Four, four contracts total.

14 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

15 MR. JONES: Were you with any other cruise
16 lines before that?

17 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

18 MR. JONES: And, okay. Can you give me your
19 crew number as well?

20 MR. GRANPIL: Six, one, zero.

21 MR. JONES: Six, one, zero. Safety number,
22 your crew number.

23 (Pause.)

24 MR. JONES: And your typical working hours are
25 from when to when?

1 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible) and then I start at
2 dinner -- sometimes five o'clock, and then I --

3 MR. JONES: And on Sunday were you working?
4 Were you onboard on Sunday, May 25?

5 MR. GRANPIL: Yes. I was in my cabin.

6 MR. JONES: You were in your cabin. And your
7 cabin number is?

8 MR. GRANPIL: Biscayne, 298.

9 MR. JONES: Biscayne, 298.

10 If we are looking, this is Biscayne Deck, and
11 if we are looking at 298, where would your cabin be?

12 MR. GRANPIL: The forward end of the ship.

13 MR. JONES: Biscayne 298 would be where? Can
14 you show me where your cabin is on here?

15 MR. GRANPIL: At the back.

16 MR. JONES: At the back. Cabin 298.

17 (Pause.)

18 MR. GRANPIL: On port side.

19 MR. JONES: Port side, 298, in the back.

20 Okay.

21 And you were in your cabin Sunday morning?

22 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

23 MR. JONES: Can you tell us what happened from
24 when you first knew something was going on?

25 MR. GRANPIL: I (inaudible) I heard some --

1 And after that --

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could you speak up a
3 little louder or move closer to the table?

4 MR. JONES: Thank you, thank you very much.

5 (Pause.)

6 MR. JONES: So, you heard shaking, an
7 explosion and then you heard a Code Alpha a few minutes
8 later. Okay.

9 MR. GRANPIL: When I, after that Alpha, I
10 heard the Bravo.

11 MR. JONES: You heard Bravo.

12 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

13 MR. JONES: And at this time you are in your
14 cabin?

15 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

16 MR. JONES: Do you have a roommate?

17 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir, I have roommate.

18 MR. JONES: Was he in the cabin with you?

19 MR. GRANPIL: Yes --

20 MR. JONES: And were you talking with one
21 another?

22 MR. GRANPIL: Yeah, my cabin roommate,
23 roommate, from outside -- a fire.

24 MR. JONES: A fire.

25 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, a fire.

1 MR. JONES: Your roommate is saying that.

2 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

3 MR. JONES: Okay. And then what happened?

4 MR. GRANPIL: Then I heard that, then I heard
5 that Alpha.

6 MR. JONES: So he said fire, first and then
7 you heard Code Alpha.

8 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

9 MR. JONES: And then after that you heard your
10 Code Bravo.

11 MR. GRANPIL: Code Bravo.

12 MR. JONES: And you are all in the same cabin.

13 MR. GRANPIL: No, when I heard Alpha, or
14 Bravo, I go outside --

15 MR. JONES: Okay. So you went outside, where?

16 MR. GRANPIL: And when I opened my door.

17 MR. JONES: Right.

18 MR. GRANPIL: On the Biscayne and the security
19 team -- told me, was telling me to outside.

20 MR. JONES: So, here is your cabin right here,
21 2-9-8.

22 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

23 MR. JONES: Tell me where Security was
24 standing?

25 MR. GRANPIL: In the gangway, because my cabin

1 is --

2 MR. JONES: Tell me where you saw Security
3 standing. This is your cabin, you came your door.

4 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

5 MR. JONES: Which door, right here?

6 MR. GRANPIL: This is my cabin, and standing
7 here, and then go to --

8 MR. JONES: So you are coming out on the port
9 hand side of the ship.

10 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

11 MR. JONES: And there is a fire screen door.

12 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

13 MR. JONES: And another fire screen door.

14 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, that is --

15 MR. JONES: And you came --

16 MR. GRANPIL: And that was open.

17 MR. JONES: The fire screen doors were open.

18 MR. GRANPIL: Open, yeah. Not the fire screen
19 door, but the -- And then the Security is standing --
20 Said you go outside, because we have something happened
21 inside the --

22 MR. JONES: And they were -- There were no
23 other people?

24 MR. GRANPIL: No, I don't see any other crew
25 members. But, I see some people --

1 MR. JONES: But, you saw some people going
2 out.

3 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

4 MR. JONES: And, and you said there was one
5 security person.

6 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

7 MR. JONES: And they were male, female?

8 MR. GRANPIL: Male.

9 MR. JONES: Male. You heard a Code Bravo,
10 there was a fire.

11 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

12 MR. JONES: Which fire team are you part of?

13 MR. GRANPIL: Fire team six.

14 MR. JONES: Fire team six.

15 So fire team six, your job with fire team six
16 is what? What do you do with fire team six?

17 MR. GRANPIL: When, if I heard Code Bravo,
18 then I would have -- I go to my station --

19 MR. JONES: Station six. And where is station
20 six?

21 MR. GRANPIL: On C Deck.

22 MR. JONES: C Deck, which is Caribbean Deck?

23 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

24 MR. JONES: So, it is one deck below.

25 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

1 MR. JONES: Can you show us on this plan?

2 MR. GRANPIL: Starboard side.

3 MR. JONES: Starboard side. So, here is C
4 deck, starboard side, now where was your station? Here
5 is the starboard side and here is station six. There
6 is the passageway.

7 (Pause.)

8 MR. JONES: This is the stairway that you
9 would normally come down.

10 MR. GRANPIL: Yes. And we have one, one --
11 This is my station.

12 MR. JONES: Station six, what do you do when
13 you get station six?

14 MR. GRANPIL: I, if I have -- I carry the
15 hose.

16 MR. JONES: So your job is to only carry
17 hoses.

18 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir --

19 MR. JONES: And your official title of that
20 fire team is what?

21 MR. GRANPIL: I carry the hose.

22 (Pause.)

23 MR. JONES: And when you heard Code Bravo, you
24 went to the stairway. You say you saw crew at the
25 stairway to the other side of the ship, and the

1 security guard there.

2 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

3 MR. JONES: And when you got outside the ship,
4 what did you see?

5 MR. GRANPIL: Nothing.

6 MR. JONES: You didn't see people outside the
7 ship?

8 MR. GRANPIL: We had some people outside --

9 MR. JONES: And what did they tell you to do?

10 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

11 MR. JONES: So, you stood there waiting at the
12 side of the ship. You stayed right up side of the
13 ship. You left the ship and you were standing outside
14 now. What did you see as soon as you come out?

15 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

16 MR. JONES: What do you see once you come
17 outside the ship? You walked out your cabin, came down
18 the gangway.

19 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

20 MR. JONES: Now, what do you see?

21 MR. GRANPIL: Nothing --

22 MR. JONES: Who was --

23 MR. GRANPIL: The Security --

24 MR. JONES: And were there a lot of other
25 people going there?

1 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

2 MR. JONES: And you followed them.

3 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

4 MR. JONES: And you were out there for about
5 how long?

6 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

7 MR. JONES: How long were you out there for,
8 about, approximately?

9 MR. GRANPIL: Until --

10 MR. JONES: And did you hear any other signals
11 other than Alpha and Bravo?

12 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

13 MR. JONES: What signal did you hear?

14 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

15 MR. JONES: And that was while you were at the
16 pier?

17 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

18 MR. JONES: And did you think that you might
19 need to go back onboard the ship?

20 MR. GRANPIL: Yes --

21 MR. JONES: And the seven shorts and one long,
22 what signal is that?

23 MR. GRANPIL: That is abandon --

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What signal is that?

25 MR. GRANPIL: Seven short and one long.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (inaudible)

2 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, abandon ship.

3 (Pause.)

4 MR. JONES: I don't have any other questions.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: On your team -- how do
6 you know, you carry the hose, you say.

7 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You bring the hose.

9 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who instructs you to do
11 that, how do you know that is your job? Who told you
12 that?

13 MR. GRANPIL: My team leader, everybody
14 carry --

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When you are in your
16 room and you hear emergency signals, what do you take
17 with you from the room to your station?

18 MR. GRANPIL: We have, if I heard --

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you are in your room
20 and you take anything with you, what do you take?

21 MR. GRANPIL: I don't --

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If you are in your
23 room, and you heard the signal, would you take anything
24 from your room with you to your emergency station?
25 Would you take anything with you from your room to your

1 emergency station if you heard the emergency signal?
2 Set of clothes, flashlights, do you have breathing
3 apparatus?

4 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, I have heard a card
6 mentioned before, does that have your duties on it?

7 MR. GRANPIL: Safety card.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Safety card. And do
9 you have that with you at all times or is that in your
10 room?

11 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you have it with you
13 at all times while you are working around the ship or
14 do you keep that in your room?

15 MR. GRANPIL: In my room.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And would you
17 take that with you if you were in your room when the
18 emergency signal sounded?

19 MR. GRANPIL: No, if I get --

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. On that card
21 would be your duties. What did you safety card say?

22 MR. GRANPIL: My safety card says --

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did it say anything
24 about your duties about carrying the hose?

25 MR. GRANPIL: I --

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

2 MR. GRANPIL: I don't --

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That is just
4 instructions -- on the card. Okay.

5 That is all I have.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (inaudible)

7 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible.) Four people.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Four people.

9 Did you ever have a chance to, have you ever
10 had a chance to -- as the fire team --

11 MR. GRANPIL: I have a chance, suppose today I
12 go on vacation, but the security guards told me that I
13 would --

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (inaudible) were they
15 telling that to everybody? How many people did you see
16 that were told to get off the ship?

17 MR. GRANPIL: I don't know how many. But, I
18 see somebody --

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did you --

20 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

21 (Pause.)

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: On these drills, what
23 tells you -- What is the first thing that -- what
24 starts the drill?

25 MR. GRANPIL: Starts the drill.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What starts it? Not
2 Sunday, but what starts the drill?

3 MR. GRANPIL: Sometimes we (inaudible) around,
4 around --

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In the day time or --

6 MR. GRANPIL: Day time.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And do you practice on
8 Sundays, too.

9 MR. GRANPIL: Wednesday and --

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (inaudible) Do you know
11 beforehand, this Wednesday or this --

12 MR. GRANPIL: What?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you know beforehand
14 when the drills will be practiced on that Wednesday or
15 that Thursday? Do you know before, like you know
16 Tuesday that there will be a drill the next day or two
17 days later?

18 MR. GRANPIL: No.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You don't know.

20 MR. GRANPIL: No. We --

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So you know that if the
22 drill is practiced on Wednesday, the next week the
23 drill will be on Thursday.

24 MR. GRANPIL: Yes.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It always works that

1 way.

2 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir. And the same time.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And the same time. And
4 that time is --

5 MR. GRANPIL: Ten, fifteen.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So what happens at
7 10:15 on these drills? The first thing that happens?

8 (Pause.)

9 MR. GRANPIL: We heard code.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what code is that
11 that you hear?

12 MR. GRANPIL: Sometimes we, I heard Alpha --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you hear any other
14 codes or just Code Alpha, Code Bravo?

15 MR. GRANPIL: Sometimes we -- like Delta.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What is your response
17 after you hear the Code Alpha or Bravo or Delta?
18 Reporting to the --

19 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, when you hear a
21 Code Alpha, what do you do?

22 MR. GRANPIL: Nothing, because I am not a
23 member of the medical team.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. When you hear a
25 Code Bravo, what do you do?

1 MR. GRANPIL: Because I am a member of the
2 fire team, I go --

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Code --

4 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Code Delta, what do you
6 do?

7 MR. GRANPIL: Nothing.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nothing. Now when you
9 hear the codes, where are you at the time on Wednesday
10 or Thursday when you have the drills?

11 MR. GRANPIL: In my cabin.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Are you always in your
13 cabin or sometimes are you someplace else?

14 MR. GRANPIL: Always in my cabin.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Always in your cabin.

16 So let's say it is a Code Bravo, and you
17 respond to it. You go to your station, and then, then
18 you wait for instructions from your team leader?

19 MR. GRANPIL: No, sir, because I am -- Up on
20 the bridge?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

22 MR. GRANPIL: My -- because we have
23 assignment, we have -- like my station, we have some --
24 we find out what we are going to do.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Now during the

1 drills, what did your team leader tell you? What
2 instructions does he give?

3 MR. GRANPIL: During the drill, sir?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

5 MR. GRANPIL: If we, if we are stand-by only,
6 we just stay there and --

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. And are you
8 always a stand-by or sometimes do you do something
9 else, you have to do something else?

10 MR. GRANPIL: Sometimes we give --

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what would that be?

12 MR. GRANPIL: Sometimes I go --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Have you ever heard
14 when you have gone during the drill, after you have
15 gone up to your station, have you ever heard abandon
16 ship signal?

17 MR. GRANPIL: I don't --

18 (Pause.)

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did you hear the
20 abandon ship signal on Sunday?

21 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what is the abandon
23 ship signal?

24 MR. GRANPIL: Seven short, one long.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Have you ever heard

1 that seven short, one long before?

2 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When?

4 MR. GRANPIL: In -- school.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: During the exercise,
6 hearing seven short and one long and that means abandon
7 ship, what do people do?

8 MR. GRANPIL: They go to their stations.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what is the actual,
10 after they go to the station, what do they have to do
11 to actually abandon the ship? What tells them after
12 they go to their station to leave the ship? What is
13 the order --

14 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You said they wait for
16 orders.

17 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. How would they
19 hear the order?

20 MR. GRANPIL: They would hear it from the
21 bridge.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Would it be an
23 announcement?

24 MR. GRANPIL: Yes, sir.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, actually when you

1 hear seven shorts and one long, that is not really
2 abandon ship, because you have to hear the announcement
3 first abandon ship, is that what you are saying?

4 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't have any more
6 questions.

7 MR. JONES: It has been helpful, all the
8 information is like a puzzle for us. So everybody has
9 a little bit of the puzzle. We put it together. We
10 collect it, that helps us a lot.

11 One of the things, you have how many crew
12 members in that fire team of yours, fire team six?

13 MR. GRANPIL: I don't know how many that we
14 have.

15 MR. JONES: But, in your team how many people
16 are there?

17 MR. GRANPIL: We have --

18 (Pause.)

19 MR. GRANPIL: Five.

20 MR. JONES: Five.

21 MR. GRANPIL: Sometimes five, sometimes we
22 have --

23 MR. JONES: Okay. So that is five,
24 approximately five. And do you know if any of those
25 team members came ashore? You don't know?

1 MR. GRANPIL: No.

2 MR. JONES: Do you know if any went to the
3 fire station? Are any of those team members friends of
4 yours? Do you know their names?

5 MR. GRANPIL: Yeah --

6 MR. JONES: Ramon. Any others?

7 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

8 MR. JONES: So you are the only galley person.
9 Are any of the other team members engineers?

10 MR. GRANPIL: I don't know what they --

11 MR. JONES: But, they are not galley.

12 MR. GRANPIL: No. Not galley.

13 MR. JONES: But, you don't know if they are
14 deck. Do you know if they are Deck Department?

15 MR. GRANPIL: (inaudible)

16 MR. JONES: That helps.

17 I don't have anything else.

18 Thank you very much.

19 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)